

Specification Amendment Schedule

Page 3, Second Paragraph:

— As shown, platform 2 includes redundant switching buses 10a and 10b. Redundant main CPU cards 12a, 12b are connected to buses 10a, 10b, an HDLC bus 14, and to host 4 by way of input/output (I/O) cards 16a, 16b. Depending upon the requirements of a particular application, various combinations of the following “line” cards, each of which supports a particular digital telecommunications protocol, may be included within platform 2: T1 card 16; E1 card 18, DS3 cards 20a, 20b. For redundancy, a standby card 22, which is a duplicate of one of the other line cards, may also be included. All such line cards have an associated I/O card, denoted collectively by reference number 26, which serves as an interface to PSTN 6.

Pages 4 and 5, Bridging Paragraph:

— With reference now to Fig. 3, illustrated there is an arrangement for centrally pooling and dynamically allocating “resource points” among one or more media resource cards 38. As shown, two media resource cards 38a and 38b are present and each such card has two DSP modules 44a-44d. In a preferred embodiment, when each of cards 38a and 38b is installed in a converged services platform 2 (Fig. 1), a total of 4096 default resource points per card are added to a central system resource point pool 62 maintained on CPU card 12a. The total points present in the pool 62, which is the sum of all default resource points plus any additional points licensed, are preferably available to any given media resource card 38. In response to messages received from an application running on host computer 4 (Fig. 1), CPU card 12a will dynamically allocate resource points among cards 38a and 38b. In a converged services platform employing multiple media resource cards, redundancy is provided by automatically allocating additional resource points from the central pool to increase the performance of the remaining cards upon a media resource card failure.